



24 September 2026

Term 3 Week 10

**Kia Ora, Kamusta, Āyubōvan, Sata srī akāla, Namaskāra,
Hallā, Dia dhuit, Kam na mauri, Mālō e Lelei, Hello**

Kia Ora Parents and Whānau

As we wrap up another busy and rewarding term, our tamariki continue to inspire us with their dedication, courage, and pursuit of excellence both inside and outside the classroom. Whether on the stage, in the classroom, or out in the community, it is wonderful to see our school vision—'Inspiring excellence — Today's learners, Tomorrow's leaders'—brought to life every day.

A huge congratulations to James Johnstone and Jimmy Blatch, who recently represented Riversdale School at the Southland Speech Grand Final! Reaching the Grand Final is an outstanding achievement following their fantastic success through both the school and regional competitions. Standing up in front of a large audience to deliver a speech takes real grit and preparation. Both boys demonstrated exceptional resilience (Manawaroa) and respect (Whakaute) for the craft of public speaking. We are incredibly proud of the way you represented yourselves, your families, and our school community, boys—ka rawe!



Upcoming Events & Reminders

- Community Assembly & Grocery Giveaway Draw: Join us today, Thursday 24th September, at 1:30pm in the School Hall for our Community Assembly. A highlight of today's assembly will be the Home & School drawing the lucky winners of the \$2,000 Grocery Giveaway vouchers! Thank you to everyone who bought and sold tickets to support our new playground fundraiser—good luck to all!
- Last Day of Term 3: Friday 25th September.
- Pool Working Bee: Saturday 26th September, starting at 10:00am at the School & Community Pool.
- Term 4 Begins: Monday 12th October.
- Pool Opens: Monday 12th October
- Riversdale School Pet Day: Friday 6th November (see info below)
- The Home and School Baking Mix forms were sent home yesterday. If you didn't get one check out the Home and School Facebook page.

Nga mihi,

Bronwyn, and the Riversdale Staff

He hono tāngata kore e motu; kā pā he taura waka, e motu
 Unlike a canoe rope, a human bond cannot be severed

Kei te pai - Well done! You all displayed the school values so well.

Certificates from Week 9



	STAR OF THE WEEK	Te Reo Māori Learner of the Week
Room 7	Hannah	Murphy
Room 6	Evie & Lucy M	Jimmy
Room 5	Harley	James
Room 4	Resandi	Frankii
Room 3	Maia	Callum
Room 2	Methuki	Charlie
Room 1	Grace	Mila

Coming Up....

Term 3 (keep an eye on the Hero Calendar)

24th September

Community Assembly, 1:30pm in the Hall

25th September

Last day of term 3

Term 4

12th October

Term 4 starts

21st October

Northern Tennis

22nd October

Touch starts in Gore

28th October

Golf Tournament

30th October
6 November
18 December

School Photos
Riversdale School Pet Day
Last day of school for 2026



Parents, Caregivers and Whanau are invited to visit the SchoolDocs site to read our school policies. Each term the Board reviews a number of policies and procedures. Parents, Whanau and Families are invited to read and make comment when these come up for review. To read any of our policies follow the steps below

To review policy documents:

1. Visit the website link:

<https://riversdale.schooldocs.co.nz>

2. Enter the Username: *riversdale*

3. Enter the Password: *excellence*

4. Click into the *Parents Quick Links* tab to easily find the policy you require.

Pinecones For Sale

We still have heaps of bags of pinecones for sale. Winter is coming! If you would like to purchase pinecones, come on down and grab them from school. **They are 1x bag for \$5 and 4x bags for \$15.**

School Buses

Our four bus drivers are Jan Robertson, Michael Lobb, Rhonda Wilson and Susanne Davis

Please inform the driver if your child is off the bus in the morning.

Jan Robertson – 027 6088203 (Kaweku - Yellow Bus)

Michael Lobb – 027 3725785 (Wendon - Green Bus)

Craig Hamilton - 027 6372583 (Waipounamu - Blue Bus)

Susanne Davis - 022 1363509 (Mandeville - Red Bus)

Please do not make any alternative arrangements with your child's bus driver without first checking with the school as our bus routes are set by the Ministry of Education and we are unable to go outside of our transport zone to drop students in different places. We are aware that some of our buses do travel past houses on the driver's way home, unfortunately this does not mean they are able to drop off students. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to be in touch with the school.



Buses run as normal. Please advise your bus driver if your child is off the bus.

Be aware that times are approximate and you may need to be flexible with these on the day.

9.00–9.20am - children take entries to the hall and display them.

9.20 am **All pets must be at school by this time.**

9.30 am - **Hall closed for judging.** No children allowed in until 11am.

9.30 am - Grand Parade – on the soccer field in front of the hall.

9.45 am - Lamb Drinking race

9.50 am - Pet/Human look alike competition (Pet & Human dressed up the same)

10 am - All children go with pets for judging. Those without pets, please go and support a friend with a pet.

11am - Hall open. Children do not remove certificates or any items please, or touch any of the displayed items.

11.30 am - Cake auction

Short lunch break (BBQ available on the day, coffee car available from 10am)

12.30pm - Bike events on the soccer field.

1.00pm - Remote controlled car race.

1.30pm - Ag Sports Teams event.

End of day – please collect up all your belongings and you may go home.

Schedule of Events – Students must enter at least two Hall events.

Event Groups:

Years 0 – 2

Years 5-6

Years 3 – 4

Years 7-8

If the weather is wet, all Hall events will continue in the morning, but pet events will not occur.

Note – Please complete the entry slip that will be in the hall. One slip to go with each entry.

Attach to your entry face down and place that entry in the correct section in the school hall before 9.30am.

Event Groups:

Years 0 – 2

Years 5-6

Years 3 – 4

Years 7-8

Pony Events

☐ Event 1

Pony sack race – please bring your own sack. Ride pony quarter way down the rugby field to the cones, dismount and get into the sack, and hop/jump while leading pony back to the finish line.

Pony Barrel race – ride pony halfway down the rugby field, around a desk, and back to the finish line.

☐ Event 2

Best presented pony.

Pets – Children to be able to answer questions orally and must be able to explain how they look after it.

Dogs must bring doggy-doo-doo bags

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| ☐ Event 3 | Best presented pet lamb. |
| ☐ Event 4 | Best presented calf. |
| ☐ Event 5 | Best presented dog. |
| ☐ Event 6 | Best presented for any other animal (rabbits, guinea pigs, rats, fish, crocodiles etc.) other than the above, in or large animals e.g. goats behind the play shed. |

Best Trained Pets The pets in this section need to show that they follow their owner's commands.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| ☐ Event 7 | Best trained lamb – follows its owner. |
| ☐ Event 8 | Best trained calf – on a lead. |
| ☐ Event 9 | Best trained dog. Responds to 'sit' command. Walks with on lead for short distance. Other commands as shown to judges. |
| | |
| ☐ Event 10 | Lamb drinking race – 300ml milk in own bottle. |
| ☐ Event 11 | Pet Human Look Alike (Pet & Human dress the same) |

Hall Events (Children must enter at least two of these events)

The following sections will be judged in age groups. All entries are completed at home. All items below go into the hall.

Pet Diaries Without Pets

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|-----------------------------------|---|
| ☐ Event 12 | Diary/scrapbook kept by the child about their pet that is not at the show. (Great for cats rather than bringing them on the day). |
|-----------------------------------|---|

Flowers

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| ☐ Event 13 | Y0 to Y2 and Y3 to Y4 – Sand Saucer. (Flowers arranged in a sand saucer) |
| ☐ Event 14 | Flowers in an unusual container. |
| ☐ Event 15 | Vase arrangement of flowers. |
| ☐ Event 16 | Environment/scene in sand (e.g. plastic dinosaurs in pre-historic times, farm scenes, barbie scene, beach scene, motocross etc). |

Crafts and Novelty

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| ☐ Event 17 | Vegetable Animal. |
| ☐ Event 18 | An item made from recycled material. |
| ☐ Event 19 | Lego type (i.e. Duplo, Lego, Lego Technics, K'nex or similar construction equipment). |
| ☐ Event 20 | Best dressed doll. |
| ☐ Event 21 | Best dressed bear. |
| ☐ Event 22 | Best handcraft by child e.g. Sewing, knitting, cross-stitch |
| ☐ Event 23 | Colouring Competition - given out at school and coloured in at school. |

Baking

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| ☐ Event 24 | Best Chocolate Cake (to be auctioned on the day) |
| ☐ Event 25 | Chocolate chippie biscuits (3 on a plate) |
| ☐ Event 26 | Best Decorated Cake (to be auctioned on the day.) |

- ☐ Event 27 Best other baked goods e.g. carrot cake, loaf (to be auctioned on the day.)
- ☐ Event 28 Best decorated cupcakes (3 on a plate)

Wearable Art – Recycled Materials

- ☐ Event 29 Wearable Art – display on a coat hanger or free standing.

Bikes and remote controlled cars.

- ☐ Event 30 Best decorated bike. (These are displayed around the elm tree on the front lawn).
- ☐ Event 31 Slow bike race. (After lunch on back field) Children must have a helmet.
- ☐ Event 32 Fastest bike races. (After lunch on back field) Children must have a helmet.
- ☐ Event 33 Remote control car race.

Ag Sports Team of 3 - mixed ages – Years 4 - 8

- ☐ Event 34 Put up an electric fence – 3 standards – and take it down

RIVERSDALE SCHOOL & COMMUNITY POOL

The Riversdale School and Community Pool is running a battery collection fundraiser. Collecting use car and machinery batteries. These will be on sold to be recycled. Helps clear the yard, while raising much needed funds for our pool. Please get in touch with Jo Russell 0273635768 for more info or collection.





**RIVERSDALE
SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY**

**POOL
Fundraiser**

Available all year round from School Office

Baking Paper (100m x 30cms)	\$35
Roll Foil (150m x 44cms)	\$30
Roll Foil (150m x 30cms)	\$30
Foodwrap (300m x 33cms)	\$26
Foodwrap (600m x 33cms)	\$36

Use Description and Last Name as reference
Payment to: 03 0915 0285905 00



RIVERSDALE SCHOOL
Home & School Association

Playground Fundraiser - Riversdale \$2000 Grocery Giveaway

Thanks for supporting this fundraiser - we will draw it at Community Assembly today.

Riversdale Beanies - \$35

To order email riversdalehas@gmail.com

Facebook Page

Please join our Facebook page 'Riversdale Home and School' to keep up to date with all our latest info.

Thanks

Home & School Committee

Community Notices



Help your community vote

Register your interest to work at the 2026 General Election.

We want people from local communities to work in voting places and help people vote. The 2026 General Election will be held on Saturday 7 November and we're taking registrations from people who are interested in working with us.

We need people with different skills and backgrounds right across Aotearoa New Zealand.

Whether you want to work for several weeks or just on election day, there are roles for everybody, from students to experienced leaders.

For more information about the roles available, and to register your interest in working at this important event, visit work.elections.nz today.




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TOUCH SOUTHLAND DEVELOPMENT TEAMS

BOYS & GIRLS

YEAR 5/6 • YEAR 7/8 • YEAR 9

NO TRIALS — EVERYONE WELCOME

TEAMS IN
OTAUTAU • WINTON • GORE
QUEENSTOWN • INVERCARGILL
TE ANAU • CROMWELL

TRAINING AFTER YOUR LOCAL TOUCH MODULE

FOUR TOURNAMENTS

SUN 18 OCT 2026	— WINTON
SUN 1 NOV 2026	— QUEENSTOWN
SUN 15 NOV 2026	— INVERCARGILL
SUN 6 DEC 2026	— WINTON

PLAY TOUCH WITH YOUR FRIENDS

Every interested player gets a go.

REGISTER NOW

www.touchesouthland.co.nz

Home page → click the pink square



Join ST JOHN YOUTH

Find out more 

Empowering young people to build confidence, leadership skills, wellbeing, and lifelong friendships. St John Youth is for everyone aged 5-18. Come learn, connect, and grow with us.

Hokonui Division

 Tuesday  6:30 PM - 8:00 PM  St John Gore
35 Charlton Road, Gore

youth@stjohn.org.nz | 0800 ST JOHN | youth.stjohn.org.nz




Lego Fun Holiday Program

Tuesday Oct 6th to Thursday Oct 8th

1-3.30pm

At the Riversdale Presbyterian Church

Ages 4-12

\$5 per day or \$10 for 3 days
(Family Discounts Apply for 3 or More Kids)

Includes:
Crafts, Games, Bible Stories, DIY Snacks, and LOADS of Lego Fun!

Contact Sarah to register—
021 025 88731 or sarahcowan3@gmail.com

Eastern Southland Basketball - Gore

Holiday Program - Tuesday 29 September 2026

For more information or to register click on links below.



Girls Got Game: 10-12pm:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdA-G0p5pZB8h_0hM1paP1IVGG2Ez6Z_zD82UCQY6hNvIzVRQ/viewform?usp=header



KiwiHoops: 1-3pm:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeKxakl_aZSS0aZuqkFWcdGSpRaO6BqFaHa79FE6krPQo5eHQ/viewform?usp=header

GORE MULTISPORTS COMPLEX

GORE AQUATIC CENTRE | MLT EVENT CENTRE | ICE SPORTS SOUTHLAND

Free Learn to Swim Assessments

The Gore Multisports Complex is offering **free swim assessments** for children who are **not currently enrolled in Learn to Swim lessons**.

Assessment sessions are available on the following Fridays:

- 18 September
- 25 September

These assessments help determine the most appropriate Learn to Swim level for your child for the upcoming school holiday block lessons or for Term 4 which will run from October 12 to December 11 2026.

Please note: Children who are already attending Learn to Swim lessons at the Gore Multisports Complex do **not** need to book an assessment, as they will be assessed during **Week 7** of the current term.

To book an assessment, please contact the Gore Multisports Complex on **03 203 9332** or visit our friendly reception team.



Athletics for Term 4 starts on Tuesday the 13th October 2026, 5:30pm at Newman Park.

Looking forward to seeing everyone again, new members most welcome.

Any queries please contact
Sarah Wiegiersma 021 141 6518
Nadia Hicks 021 213 9186



TERM 3 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

@ iLT STADIUM SOUTHLAND

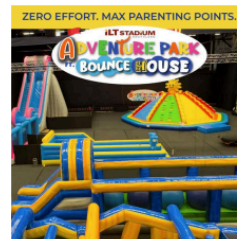


Mon 28 - Wed 30 September

Sports-Tastic School Holiday Programme

Time: 9:00am-3:00pm (drop-off from 8:30am)

Cost: \$60 per day | \$165 for all three days



Tues 29 September - Sat 3 October

Adventure Park ft. Bounce House

Sessions: 10am, 11am, 12pm, 2pm, 3pm & 4pm daily

Cost: \$15 General Admission

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO BOOK:
STADIUMSOUTH.CO.NZ

LEARN TO RIDE TERM 4 2026

For riders age 10+

\$110 per term
Includes track and bike hire, coach & certificate

LEARN TO RIDE

Come along and learn how to ride a track bike on New Zealand's first indoor velodrome

Monday's 4-5pm
Starting October 12th 2026
Register Online:
<https://www.webscorer.com/register?raceid=446510>

NOW TAKING REGISTRATIONS FOR TERM 4
03 2199325
OFFICE@CYCLINGSOUTH.ORG.NZ

CYCLING SOUTHLAND INCORPORATED

BUSHCRAFT & SURVIVAL SKILLS Holiday Experiences

CHILD VS WILD [Multi Days]

An Adventure quest in different locations. The first days are spent learning "bushcraft and survival skills ready to be tested on the final day in a teamwork survival challenge.

7 to 13 year olds
Invercargill
8.45am to 3pm
28th Sep to 1st October [4 days]
5th Oct to 7th Oct [3 days]

BUSH KIDS [1 Day]

A one day bushcraft and survival skills experience.

5 to 16 year olds
Invercargill & Gore
8.45am to 3pm
Friday 2nd October GORE
5th, 6th, 7th and 9th October Invercargill

***Bushcraft and Survival Skills experiences include:**
Advanced fire starting skills
Knife work, whittling, carving
Bush exploration, navigating, orienteering
Shelter building
Cooking on gas stoves/fires
Survival first aid
Herbal medicine
Foraging
Natural Crafts
Nature Discovery

Our adventures explore the bush, estuary, beach and pine forests

*Every day brings a different adventure. Activities are weather, location and seasonally dependent

NATURAL COOKING CREATORS [1 Day]

A one day creative cooking experience preparing nourishing meals in the kitchen from scratch. Children will come home enthused, feeling capable and independent after a day with Geraldine from the Ferment Kitchen.

5 to 16 year olds
Invercargill
8.45am to 3pm
Thursday 8th October

www.trueinnature.com Katie: 0226381497

SPRING HOLIDAY

Art classes with **DAB ART DO**
at **Waikaia School**

MONDAY 28 SEPTEMBER 2026 | 10:00 - 11:30 AM
SENSORY PRINTMAKING WORKSHOP AGES 4 - 8



A playful exploration of colour, shape, pattern and printmaking! Children will explore exciting ways to build beautiful, coloured backgrounds, discovering what happens when colour and line interact. From there, they will create their own bold designs and experiment with printing techniques to transform their artwork.
\$35 per student - all materials included.

THURSDAY 1 OCTOBER 2026 | 1:30 - 4:30 PM

KLIMT-INSPIRED FOREST AGES 7 - 13

Explore colour, texture and pattern as we take inspiration from Gustav Klimt to create a vibrant, imaginative forest. Experiment with expressive marks, rich colours and decorative details to transform simple trees into a striking artwork. A playful exploration of pattern, texture, composition and creative expression.

\$65 per student - all materials included.



**To book your place: Message Reanda Gerber
0210 655 067 or email dabartdo@gmail.com**

SPRING HOLIDAY

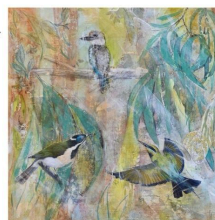
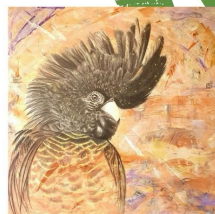
Art classes with **DAB ART DO**
at **Riversdale Arts**

SATURDAY 3 OCTOBER 2026 | 09:30 - 12:30 AM
WILD THINGS! MIXED-MEDIA ANIMAL ART AGES 7 - 12

Inspired by the beautiful artwork of artist Tracey Polglaze, children will begin by creating an expressive abstract background, experimenting with colour, marks, textures and layers. Once their abstract background is complete, they will use a transfer technique to bring a wild animal into their artwork. They'll then experiment with watercolour and coloured pencils to develop the animal, adding colour, detail and expressive marks while allowing the abstract layers underneath to remain part of the finished piece.

This project is all about exploring, experimenting and discovering through the creative process.

\$65 per student – all materials included.



**To book your place: Message Reanda Gerber
0210 655 067 or email dabartdo@gmail.com**